

1 **I. BACKGROUND**

2 This case arises from Plaintiff's alleged default on a loan he obtained to finance the
3 purchase of real property. (*See generally* Pet. Removal, ECF No. 4). Plaintiff's Complaint
4 raised the following claims in connection with Defendants' assignment of the loan: (1) breach
5 of contract; (2) intentional infliction of emotional distress; and (3) unjust enrichment. (*See* First
6 Am. Compl. ¶¶ 11–35, ECF No. 30). On March 2, 2020, Defendants moved to dismiss the
7 Complaint. (*See* Mot. Dismiss, ECF No. 34). The Court dismissed the Complaint with
8 prejudice for failure to state a claim upon which relief could be granted. (Order, ECF No. 55).

9 Presumably before receiving the Order and Judgment, Plaintiff filed a Motion for
10 Judgment on the Pleadings. (*See* Mot. J., ECF No. 57). Given concern that the Court may
11 construe the Motion as a Complaint, Defendants filed a Motion to Dismiss regarding Plaintiff's
12 Motion, (ECF No. 59). Thereafter, Plaintiff filed a Motion to file an Amended Complaint,
13 (ECF No. 60) and Motions to Vacate Judgment, (ECF Nos. 63, 65).

14 **II. LEGAL STANDARD**

15 Although Plaintiff styles his Motion as a motion to vacate, it appears that Plaintiff has
16 actually made a motion for reconsideration under Rule 60 of the Federal Rules of Civil
17 Procedure. Rule 60(b) governs relief from a judgment or order:

18 (b) Grounds for Relief from a Final Judgment, Order, or Proceeding. On motion
19 and just terms, the court may relieve a party or its legal representative from a final
20 judgment, order, or proceeding for the following reasons:

- 21 (1) mistake, inadvertence, surprise, or excusable neglect;
- 22 (2) newly discovered evidence that, with reasonable diligence, could not have
23 been discovered in time to move for a new trial under Rule 59(b);
- 24 (3) fraud (whether previously called intrinsic or extrinsic), misrepresentation,
25 or misconduct by an opposing party;
- (4) the judgment is void;
- (5) the judgment has been satisfied, released or discharged; it is based on an
earlier judgment that has been reversed or vacated; or applying it prospectively is
no longer equitable; or
- (6) any other reason that justifies relief.

1 Fed. R. Civ. P. 60(b). The Ninth Circuit has distilled the grounds for reconsideration into three
2 primary categories: (1) newly discovered evidence; (2) the need to correct clear error or prevent
3 manifest injustice; and (3) an intervening change in controlling law. *School Dist. No. 1J v.*
4 *ACandS, Inc.*, 5 F.3d 1255, 1263 (9th Cir. 1993).

5 **III. DISCUSSION**

6 The Court first addresses the pending Motions that relate to the Court's Judgment but do
7 not request that the Court set aside its Judgment. Plaintiff moved for judgment on the pleadings
8 after the Court had already entered its Judgment. (*See* J., ECF No. 56); (Mot. J. Pleadings, ECF
9 No. 57). Given that the Court has already entered judgment, the Court cannot grant the
10 requested relief. Additionally, the Court does not construe the Motion as a Complaint because
11 it is not properly styled as a Complaint under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 8; therefore, the
12 Court also denies the Defendants' Motion to Dismiss.

13 The Court also denies as moot the Motion to Amend. Given that the Court dismissed
14 Plaintiff's Complaint with prejudice, Plaintiff cannot secure leave of Court to amend his
15 Complaint unless and until the Court reconsiders its Judgment. As the Court has not done so,
16 and dismissal with prejudice operates as a final judgment on the merits, the Court cannot grant
17 the requested relief.

18 The Court next turns to Plaintiff's Motions to Vacate Judgment. Plaintiff argues that the
19 Court should vacate judgment because of his excusable neglect and his limited understanding
20 of legal process. (*See* First Mot. Vacate at 1–2, ECF No. 63); (*see also* Second Mot. Vacate at
21 3, ECF No. 65). He contends that he has not acted with any intent to delay and has pursued his
22 claims in good faith. (*Id.* 2–3).

23 The Court neither takes issue with Plaintiff's procedural compliance in this case nor the
24 sincerity of his tactics. Rather, the Court concluded that the facts as alleged by Plaintiff cannot
25 support a viable legal theory. (*See* Order, ECF No. 55). As Plaintiff has not pleaded facts that

1 could support a viable cause of action against Defendants, and Plaintiff has not explained any
2 additional considerations that would support reconsideration of the Court's conclusion under
3 Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 60(b), the Court denies the Motions to Vacate.

4 **IV. CONCLUSION**

5 **IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** that Plaintiff's Motion for Judgment on the Pleadings,
6 (ECF No. 57), is **DENIED**.

7 **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that Defendants' Motion to Dismiss, (ECF No. 59), is
8 **DENIED**.

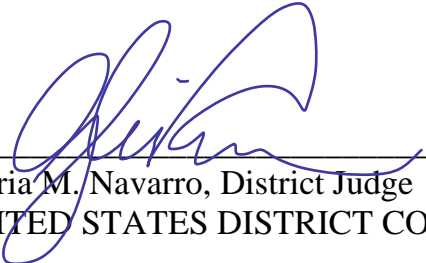
9 **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that Plaintiff's Motion to File an Amended Complaint,
10 (ECF No. 60), is **DENIED**.

11 **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that Plaintiff's First Motion to Vacate Judgment, (ECF
12 No. 63), is **DENIED**.

13 **IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that Plaintiff's Second Motion to Vacate Judgment,
14 (ECF No. 65), is **DENIED**.

15 Dated this 11 day of June, 2021.

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Gloria M. Navarro, District Judge
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT